

MINUTES – **AS PRESENTED 12/1/16**
CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
ATTENDANCE ZONE ADVISORY COMMISSION
EDWARD A. GREER EDUCATION CENTER, BOARD ROOM
2832 E. FLAMINGO ROAD, LAS VEGAS, NV 89121

November 3, 2016

9:30 a.m.

Roll Call: Members Present

Nicole Benson
Albert Delgado
Justin Hepworth
Diane Kinsel
Mallory Levins
Shari Lyman
Cyndy Mahoney
Deborah Mancini
Lisa Nelson
Becky Nielson (arrived 9:33 a.m.)
Glenn Olsen
Rachel Wren

Members Absent

David Gomez
Lois Mack
Mike Malone

Tracy Murphy, Coordinator IV
Steve Burda, GIS Coordinator III

John Lockhart, Transportation Coordinator IV

FLAG SALUTE

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Adoption of the agenda for November 3, 2016 amended to discuss 3.04 and 3.08 concurrently.

Motion: Nicole Benson Second: Shari Lyman Vote: Unanimous

David Gomez, Lois Mack, and Mike Malone were not present to vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes for October 25, 2016.

Motion: Shari Lyman Second: Justin Hepworth

Yes votes: 11 No votes: 0

Motion Passed
Becky Nielson abstained.

David Gomez, Lois Mack, and Mike Malone were not present to vote.

REPORTS

Tracy Murphy introduced new AZAC members Rachel Wren, District E, and Deborah Mancini, District G.

FOCUS AREA E1 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Scenario 1 assigns students from Sister Robert Joseph Bailey, Edna F. Hinman, C. T. Sewell, Jim Thorpe, and Harriet Treem Elementary Schools to the new elementary school at Galleria Drive and Dave Wood Circle, students from Harriet Treem and Jim Thorpe Elementary Schools to Edna F. Hinman Elementary School, and students from Edna F. Hinman Elementary School to Lorna J. Kesterson Elementary School. Scenario 2 assigns students from Sister Robert Joseph Bailey, Edna F. Hinman, C. T. Sewell, Jim Thorpe, and Harriet Treem Elementary Schools to the new school, from C. T. Sewell Elementary School to Edna F. Hinman Elementary School, and from Edna F. Hinman Elementary School to Lorna J. Kesterson Elementary School. Scenario 3 assigns students from Sister Robert Joseph Bailey, Edna F. Hinman, and C. T. Sewell Elementary Schools to the new elementary school, from Jim Thorpe and Harriet Treem Elementary Schools to Edna F. Hinman Elementary School, and from Edna F. Hinman Elementary School to Lorna J. Kesterson Elementary School.

Tracy Murphy stated one student lives in the Bailey Elementary School zone south of the wash, west of Hollywood Boulevard, north of Russell Road and east of Boulder Highway. Transportation has requested the aforementioned area be rezoned to the Galleria Drive and Dave Wood Circle elementary school.

Tracy Murphy stated no students reside in the area east of Gibson Road, southwest of US 95, and north of CC 215, currently zoned to Hinman Elementary School. An apartment complex has broken ground in the area; therefore, it is suggested to rezone the area to Kesterson Elementary School to eliminate the possibility of moving students twice once occupied.

Cyndy Mahoney stated both areas noted by Ms. Murphy are included in all three scenarios. She said the primary difference between the three scenarios is the assignment of the Cadence residential development. Ms. Mahoney pointed out Scenario 3 gives little relief to Thorpe and Treem Elementary Schools and has the new school opening approximately 300 students under capacity. Scenario 2 helps Thorpe and Treem Elementary Schools, but moves students out of Sewell Elementary School who can see the school from their windows. Ms. Mahoney asked if there is a crossing guard to assist students crossing Lake Mead Parkway.

John Lockhart stated there is not currently a crossing guard at that location. The bus picks students up on their side of Lake Mead Parkway and transports them across to Sewell Elementary School.

Lisa Nelson asked for the boundaries of the Cadence development.

Tracy Murphy pointed out the area on projected map.

Cyndy Mahoney stated the school opening in the area in 2018 will not draw from Sewell Elementary School.

Albert Delgado asked if Kesterson Elementary School will be affected.

Cyndy Mahoney stated it will, restating the need to assign the area with no students to the Kesterson Elementary School zone. It can be reviewed next year when zoning for the new school.

Lisa Nelson asked if Ms. Mahoney has a preference for one of the three scenarios.

Cyndy Mahoney stated she is leaning toward Scenario 1, which leaves Sewell Elementary School intact and relieves Thorpe and Treem Elementary Schools. Thorpe and Treem Elementary Schools will still be over 9 month capacities by approximately 150 students between the two schools.

Cyndy Mahoney stated there is no way to relieve Bailey Elementary School at this time because of a desert area and a wash around which students would have to be bussed. There will be a school in the area in the future which should offer relief.

Cyndy Mahoney stated Hinman Elementary School has a low enrollment projection; it is an older school with a much smaller capacity, while the new school at Galleria Drive and Dave Wood Circle will have a capacity of 850.

Albert Delgado stated Hinman Elementary School has a capacity of 466.

Cyndy Mahoney stated Scenario 1 is the most equitable.

Albert Delgado asked how many students are in the area remaining at Thorpe and Treem Elementary Schools east of Boulder Highway.

Cyndy Mahoney stated the area east of Boulder Highway has 127 students, the area to the east of that moving from Thorpe and Treem Elementary Schools to the new school has 196 students, the area to the north moving from Hinman Elementary School has 257 students and the small area from Bailey Elementary School has 1 student. Moving the area currently assigned to Thorpe and Treem Elementary Schools east of Boulder Highway would have put the new school at capacity, leaving no room for students moving into the area. Ms. Mahoney reminded the commission that there will be another school built in a couple years to offer additional relief to this area.

Justin Hepworth stated he thinks the area referenced is where they are looking for a location for a new school, but have not yet identified a property.

Albert Delgado asked if Transportation has any information on bussing time for the area east of Boulder Highway going to the new elementary school.

John Lockhart stated he does not have the information, but will provide it at the next meeting.

Cyndy Mahoney stated she has driven the area. It has wide open roads recently improved and extending to Lake Las Vegas and the time to transport students will not be impacted by crossing major streets.

Albert Delgado stated the commission will not move forward with this Focus Area until parent meetings are completed.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Tessa Stewart, parent, Sewell Elementary School, lives in the area proposed to be assigned to the new school. She thanked the commission for their work. Ms. Stewart stated she loves Sewell Elementary School; one of the reasons is its diversity. She hopes the new school will retain the diversity.

Lee Esplin, principal, Treem Elementary School, stated he looks at the impact of the scenarios on Treem and Thorpe Elementary schools, because they are sister schools. He understood the district was going to build additional classrooms on their campuses, but decided not to do so because a new school will be built in the area in 2019 to reduce their overcrowding. Mr. Esplin stated the reduction in students will not take Treem Elementary School close to its capacity of approximately 475. They currently have 17 portables on their campus and students are bussed across a major highway. He wants stability for his students and is concerned what the future impact will be should there be a second zone change.

Becky Nielson thanked those from the public who spoke.

FOCUS AREAS E3 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND M1 FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Focus Area E3, Scenario 1, assigns students from Mark L. Fine, Charlotte Hill, Aldeane Comito Ries, Aggie Roberts, and Louis Wiener, Jr. Elementary Schools to the new elementary school at Arville Street and Mesa Verde Lane and from Aggie Roberts Elementary School to Charlotte Hill and Louis Wiener, Jr. Elementary Schools. An area of Tony Alamo Elementary School in which no students currently reside is also reassigned to the new elementary school at Arville Street and Mesa Verde Lane for any future development. Focus Area M1, Scenario 1, assigns students from Jerry and Lois Tarkanian Middle School to Lawrence and Heidi Canarelli Middle School, from Lawrence and Heidi Canarelli Middle School to Wilbur and Theresa Faiss Middle School, from Wilbur and Theresa Faiss Middle School to Victoria Fertitta Middle School, and from Lawrence and Heidi Canarelli Middle School to Jerry and Lois Tarkanian Middle School.

Tracy Murphy stated Scenario 1 for the new school at Arville Street and Mesa Verde Lane is open to review middle school feeder alignment. It was also requested that Roberts Elementary School be removed from the scenario due to declining enrollment.

Tracy Murphy clarified that staff will create Scenario 2 for Focus Area E3 eliminating Roberts Elementary School.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Jane Straun, parent and PTA president, Aggie Roberts Elementary School, stated she appreciates the commission's decision to allow the area discussed to remain in the Roberts Elementary School zone.

FOCUS AREA E5 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Focus Area E5, Scenario 1, assigns students from Linda Rankin Givens and Ethel W. Staton Elementary Schools to the new elementary school on Antelope Ridge Drive.

Tracy Murphy stated staff met with representatives of Givens and Staton Elementary Schools. The scenario presented will substantially relieve Givens Elementary School while giving some relief to Staton Elementary School. The new school on Antelope Ridge Drive is opening under capacity to allow space for significant development expected in the area.

Nicole Benson asked how this will relieve Staton Elementary School.

Tracy Murphy stated there are approximately 85 students in the area surrounding the new school site.

Albert Delgado stated the area being reassigned is everything currently in the Staton Elementary School zone west of CC 215. Mr. Delgado asked for input from Lisa Nelson and Rachel Wren.

Rachel Wren stated she attended the meeting referenced by Ms. Murphy. The concern of the school representatives was to avoid having to rezone more than once. This was addressed by opening the new school with a smaller population. The administrators felt zone variances and open enrollment would allow the fifth graders to stay and not require zoning. She also attended a parent meeting hosted by Trustee Tew. The parents expressed the same concerns. Ms. Wren does not feel that another scenario is needed.

Lisa Nelson stated there are 85 students in the area being reassigned from Staton Elementary School to the new school.

Justin Hepworth asked if consideration had been given to moving the area east of CC 215, which has a direct overpass into the Givens Elementary School area, to give additional relief to Staton Elementary School.

Albert Delgado asked for the number of students residing in the area east of CC 215, south of Far Hills Avenue, northwest of Laurelglen Drive, east of North Pavillion Center Drive and north of West Charleston Boulevard.

Rachel Wren stated the area has 89 students.

Tracy Murphy stated transportation would be required to take students across the freeway. There are 89 students in the area east of CC 215, south of Alta Drive, east of North Pavillion Center Drive and north of West Charleston Boulevard, 219 students in the area east of CC 215, south of Far Hills Avenue, northwest of Laurelglen Drive, east of North Pavillion Center Drive and north of West Charleston Boulevard.

Justin Hepworth asked if there is an overpass crossing the freeway at Alta Drive.

Glenn Olsen stated there is an overpass.

Tracy Murphy stated the participants at the meeting had reviewed the capacity of both Givens and Staton Elementary Schools. Due to the active development in the area Staton Elementary School could reach over 1000 students. It was felt that the school on Antelope Ridge Drive opening under capacity and Givens Elementary School at approximately 100 students under capacity with the recommended change gives the opportunity for open enrollment, affording parents an option. Staton Elementary School administration is comfortable with the numbers as discussed.

Albert Delgado asked if the Givens Elementary School representatives are also comfortable with their lower numbers.

Tracy Murphy stated they are comfortable with the number, and feel open enrollment may help their school as well.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Carolee Frost, parent, Givens Elementary School, lives in the area around the new school on Antelope Ridge Drive and expects to be assigned there. Ms. Frost is concerned that the AB 394 funding, which is based upon number of students, may leave the school short of funds. She quoted ex Chief Financial Officer Jim McIntosh as saying elementary schools have mostly fixed costs. She is concerned about the ramifications of a school so underpopulated and wonders if the district will make exceptions to be sure their schools are adequately funded.

FOCUS AREA E8 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Focus Area E8 assigns students from Frank Lamping Elementary School to Glen C. Taylor Elementary School.

Tracy Murphy stated Scenario 1 would assign 55 students in the area of the Taylor Elementary School attendance zone south of Sunridge Heights Parkway, west of Canyon Heights Drive and Precinct Boundary, north of Corporate Limit, east of Parcel Line, south of Roaring Brook Drive, east of Rising Star Ranch, north of Custom Line, and east of Sandy Ridge Avenue to Lamping Elementary School. Taylor Elementary School is currently experiencing a great deal of growth and Lamping Elementary School feels they can accommodate the additional students. She stated this change will not affect middle school alignment. Ms. Murphy stated two new elementary schools opening in the area in 2018 will provide relief in this area.

Mallory Levins stated she and Justin Hepworth attended a meeting with the principals of Taylor and Lamping Elementary Schools. The principal of Taylor Elementary School is concerned about the overcrowding at the school. Ms. Levins is concerned about moving students at this time and again next year when zoning for the new schools.

Justin Hepworth stated students are currently bussed past Lamping Elementary School to get to Taylor Elementary School. In the area proposed for change there are five students already attending Lamping Elementary School on zone variances; another 47 students would be affected. Mr. Hepworth stated there are three schools due to open the 2018-2019 school year. While the principals of both schools want relief, he cautions that rezoning more than the number suggested in Focus Area E8, Scenario 1 may hamper the commission's ability to properly zone the new schools.

Mallory Levins stated they do not foresee the need to readjust the area in question in upcoming years.

Becky Nielson asked if there is any development coming to the east or north of the area in the near future.

Justin Hepworth stated there is significant development coming to the east of this area.

Becky Nielson stated there will probably not be many students coming from the development. She asked if there are schools slated for the area.

Justin Hepworth stated there are not.

Tracy Murphy stated there is a school planned to the east of the area shown on the map.

Albert Delgado asked if the new school will cause students to be moved twice.

Mallory Levins stated the new school will probably not draw from this area.

Justin Hepworth stated there is a theoretical possibility the area could be rezoned, but it would require bussing students past one school to reach another and this is what they are trying to avoid.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

FOCUS AREA E9 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Focus Area E9 creates separate attendance boundaries for James E. and A. Rae Smalley and J. Marlon Walker Elementary Schools, currently sister schools sharing one attendance zone.

Tracy Murphy stated Smalley and Walker Elementary Schools are K – 5 sister schools. The Demographics, Zoning and GIS Department was asked to develop scenarios to create separate attendance zones. A meeting was held with the principals of both schools to address their concerns.

Justin Hepworth stated he and Mallory Levins were in attendance at the meeting Ms. Murphy mentioned. Scenario 1 gave the most even division of students to the two schools and closest to their capacities. However, this scenario leaves Smalley Elementary School outside its boundary. Scenario 2 extends the boundary to include the school and adds only 20 additional students to Smalley Elementary School. He stated there is development in the area north of Patti Ann Woods Drive which will take Walker Elementary School closer to its capacity. Administrators of both schools seemed very happy with this scenario.

Albert Delgado stated the majority of development in the area is close to Smalley Elementary School, with a possible 386 additional students from both active and inactive developments.

Justin Hepworth stated the main development is occurring north of Smalley Elementary School in the suggested Walker Elementary School zone. He stated there is some development in the suggested Smalley Elementary School zone, but it is much smaller.

Albert Delgado asked about the area north of Smalley Elementary School that will be zoned to Walker Elementary School.

Justin Hepworth stated the vast majority of students in the area live in the area south of Mission Drive, west of Greenway Road, north of Ray Boulevard and east of Corporate Limit suggested to be zoned to Smalley Elementary School and the area north of Mission Drive, east of Precinct Boundary, south of Horizon Drive, southeast of CC 215 and east of Greenway Road referred to by Mr. Delgado. Zoning the area north of Mission Drive to Smalley Elementary School would create serious overcrowding and leave Walker Elementary School underpopulated. Those students currently attend Walker Elementary School.

Albert Delgado stated with development added in there are 1870 potential students. That would be 935 per school to create parity; the capacity at Smalley Elementary School is 694 and at Walker Elementary School it is 715. With the density in the area and new development, Smalley Elementary School could quickly reach 900 students.

Tracy Murphy stated there is development planned, but not yet started, in the suggested Walker Elementary School zone. One development near Nevada State College has 117 homes, another is approximately 33, north of Mission Drive and south of US 95 has 27.

Albert Delgado stated it was mentioned there is development just north of Smalley Elementary School. He restated the potential 935 per school if evenly divided. Mr. Delgado stated there are 72 potential students in the area actively being developed, 315 from the inactive area.

Cyndy Mahoney stated she understood the principals requested hard zones rather than their shared zone. She stated approximately 300 students from Smalley Elementary School would be rezoned to Walker Elementary School and approximately 300 students from Walker Elementary School would be rezoned to Smalley Elementary School. This moves 600 students to a school about a mile away just to hard zone them. Ms. Mahoney stated her trustee does not like to move students unnecessarily. She stated looking at the two scenarios, she is not sure either is better than the current shared zone.

Justin Hepworth stated Ms. Mahoney is correct, the number from each school is just under 300 students. He stated both principals are certain they want hard zones due to issues over the years. Mr. Hepworth stated most sister schools share a parking lot, but these are a mile apart. A student may move in by Walker Elementary School and still be assigned to Smalley Elementary School and vice versa. He stated the hard zone will cause a lot of swapping back and forth, but will eliminate future problems. Rachel Wren asked if Mr. Hepworth and Ms. Levins have met with parents and, if so, how they reacted.

Justin Hepworth stated they have not yet met with parents. The principals have been discussing it with the parents and they hoped to hear from them at the AZAC meeting.

Lisa Nelson asked if, in Scenario 2, there is any way part of the area east of Corporate Limit and south of Mission Drive could be reassigned to Walker Elementary School to relieve Smalley Elementary School.

Justin Hepworth stated the population density in the area makes it difficult.

Tracy Murphy stated the principals mentioned at one time Walker Elementary School had an international language program which is being phased out. This will make the schools similar to each other in programming.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Laurel Dodds, parent and Walker Elementary School PTA board member, stated she is in favor of the change because there is unnecessary rivalry between the parents at the two schools. Ms. Dodds looks forward to being able to walk her child down the block to school instead of having her ride the bus.

Alisa Gifford, parent, Walker Elementary School, stated they moved from Arizona to Las Vegas 10 months ago. Walker Elementary School was her choice for her child; she will be rezoned to Smalley Elementary School. She requested that students who are currently attending Walker Elementary School be able to continue to do so. Ms. Gifford likes what the principal is doing for the school. She did like the language program and hopes it will be revived. Her request is that students may be given an option to stay where they are.

Becky Nielson stated for the record when Smalley Elementary School opened AZAC wanted to make a hard zone.

Becky Nielson stated it is very important for the school to physically be in its zone.

Albert Delgado thanked the members of the public who spoke. He stated the commission appreciates their opinions when making decisions.

CALENDAR, DATES, AND TIMES

The next AZAC meeting will be held on November 15, 2016.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Motion: Becky Nielson

Second: Shari Lyman

Vote: Unanimous

David Gomez, Lois Mack, and Mike Malone were not present to vote.